

James 5:16~ Therefore openly confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may get healed. A righteous man's supplication, when it is at work,¹ has much force.

Footnote: Or, when rendered with earnestness

1· Therefore the course of wisdom in the congregation is not to criticize one another, but to openly confess our sins and errors to one another, so that a healing may occur. James shows that a righteous man's supplication has great force while he is praying in behalf of another, for this caring effort is what Yehowah wants his priestly sons to learn to do for one another.

[Question] Is it a course of wisdom to be critical of others within the Christian congregation?

[Question] What is a better course?

[Question] Why must the righteous and strong ones help the weak ones spiritually?

2· David now said to Nathan; I have sinned against Yehowah. At this Nathan said to David; Yehowah, in turn, does let your sin pass by. You will not die. (2 Samuel 12:13)

[Question] How did David react to the realization, that he has sinned badly against Yehowah God, when Nathan the prophet confronted him?

[Question] Because of this, how was he treated?

3· My sin I finally confessed to you, and my error I did not cover. I said; I shall make confession over my transgressions to Yehowah. And you yourself pardoned the error of my sins. (Psalms 32:5)

[Question] How then, should we all approach to Yehowah God, and what will we receive, if we are sincere?

4· He that is covering over his transgressions will not succeed, but he that is confessing and leaving them will be shown mercy. (Proverbs 28:13)

[Question] Will the man who tries to cover over his transgressions succeed?

[Question] Who then, will be shown mercy?

5· If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so as to

forgive us our **sins**, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (**1 John 1:9**)

[Question] What is Yehowah God, if we openly confess our sins to him?

- 6· **And I proceeded to prostrate myself before Yehowah, as at first, forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all your sin that you had committed in doing evil in the eyes of Yehowah so as to offend him. (Deuteronomy 9:18)**

[Question] How did Moses act before his God after seeing the evil going on in the camp of Israel during his absence?

- 7· **We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is God-fearing and does his will, he listens to this one. (John 9:31)**

[Question] Whom does Yehowah God not listen to, and why?

[Question] Why then, should healthy anointed Christians help the spiritually sick ones?

- 8· **Upon that Samuel called to Yehowah, and Yehowah proceeded to give thunders and rain on that day, so that all the people were greatly in fear of Yehowah and of Samuel. (1 Samuel 12:18)**

[Question] What happened when the righteous man Samuel called upon Yehowah God for assistance?

- 9· **The king now answered and said to the man of the true God; Soften, please, the face of Yehowah your God and **pray** in my behalf that my hand may be restored to me. At this the man of the true God softened the face of Yehowah, so that the king's hand was restored to him, and it came to be as at first. (1 Kings 13:6)**

[Question] How did the king humble himself before the prophet of God, with what result?

- 10· **But now return the **man's** wife, for he is a prophet, and he will make **supplication** for you. So keep living. But if you are not returning her, know that you will positively die, you and all who are yours. (Genesis 20:7)**

[Question] What was Abimelech told about Abraham, and what he was to do with his wife?

- 11· And Abraham began to make **supplication** to the true God, and God proceeded to heal Abimelech and his wife and his slave girls, and they began bearing children. (**Genesis 20:17**)

[Question] What happened when Abimelech listened to God?

- 12· Accordingly Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh, and Moses cried out to Yehowah because of the frogs that He had put upon Pharaoh. (**Exodus 8:12**)

[Question] How did Yehowah God listen to Moses, and what did he thus do to the Pharaoh?

- 13· After that Moses went out from Pharaoh and made entreaty to Yehowah. (**Exodus 8:30**)

[Question] What did this make the wicked Pharaoh do in response?

- 14· And Yehowah went on to say to Moses; This thing, too, of which you have spoken, I shall do, because you have found favor in my eyes and I know you by name. (**Exodus 33:17**)

[Question] How did Yehowah God listen to the requests of his righteous servant Moses?

- 15· And they must **confess** their sin that they have done, and he must return the amount of his guilt in its principal, also adding a fifth of it to it, and he must give it to the one against whom he did wrong. (**Numbers 5:7**)

[Question] What was a thief to do in acknowledgement of his wrong before God and men?

- 16· When the people began to cry out to Moses, then he made **supplication** to Yehowah, and the fire sank down. (**Numbers 11:2**)

[Question] How did the request of the people get acknowledged when they made acknowledgement of Moses' position before God?

- 17· And Moses began to cry out to Yehowah, saying; O God, please! Heal her, please! (**Numbers 12:13**)

[Question] How did Moses make supplication to Yehowah God for his sister Miriam, when she was struck with leprosy?

- 18· Then Yehowah said; I do forgive according to your word. **(Numbers 14:20)**

[Question] Did Yehowah God then listen to the request of Moses?

- 19· At Aaron, too, Yehowah got very incensed to the point of annihilating him, but I made **supplication** also in behalf of Aaron at that particular time. **(Deuteronomy 9:20)**

[Question] Who made supplication in Aaron's behalf when Yehowah God got angry at him?

- 20· And I began to make **supplication** to Yehowah and to say; O Sovereign Lord Yehowah, do not bring to ruin your people, even your private property, whom you redeemed with your greatness, whom you brought out of Egypt with a strong hand. **(Deuteronomy 9:26)**

[Question] How did Moses plead for his people Israel?

- 21· And no day **has** proved to be like that one, either before it or after it, in that Yehowah listened to the voice of a man, for Yehowah himself was fighting for Israel. **(Joshua 10:14)**

[Question] How did Yehowah God listen to the voice of Joshua to help him in fighting a war?

- 22· Then Samuel said; Collect all Israel together at Mizpah, that I may **pray** in your behalf to Yehowah. **(1 Samuel 7:5)**

[Question] How did Samuel pray for the people of Israel?

- 23· Is it not wheat harvest today? I shall call to Yehowah that he may give thunders and rain, then know and see, that your evil is abundant, that you have done in the eyes of Yehowah, in asking for yourselves a king. **(1 Samuel 12:17)**

[Question] How did Samuel demonstrate that he had Yehowah God's backing, in what he said and did?

- 24· And all the people began to say to Samuel; Pray in behalf of your servants to Yehowah your God, as we do not want to die, because we have added to all our **sins** an evil in

asking for ourselves a king. (1 Samuel 12:19)

[Question] What did the people then ask Samuel to do for them, realizing their error?

- 25· Finally Yehowah listened to Elijah's voice, so that the soul of the child came back within him and he came to life. (1 Kings 17:22)

[Question] How did Yehowah God listen to the voice of Elijah?

- 26· And Ahab proceeded to go up to eat and drink. As for Elijah, he went up to the top of Carmel and began crouching to the earth and keeping his face put between his knees. (1 Kings 18:42)

[Question] How did Yehowah God fulfill the word of Elijah regarding the end of the drought?

- 27· Perhaps Yehowah your God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his lord sent to taunt the living God, and he will actually call him to account for the words that Yehowah your God **has** heard. And you must lift up prayer in behalf of the remnant that are to be found. (2 Kings 19:4)

[Question] Why did the remnant of God's people pray for, when the Assyrian King taunted the living God?

- 28· Accordingly Yehowah listened to Hezekiah and **healed** the people. (2 Chronicles 30:20)

[Question] How did Yehowah God listen to the word of Hezekiah his servant?

- 29· And I went on to say; O my God, I do feel ashamed and embarrassed to raise my face to you, O my God, for our errors themselves have multiplied over our head and our guiltiness **has** grown great even to the heavens. (Ezra 9:6)

[Question] How did Ezra humbly and repentantly approach his God in prayer in behalf of his people?

- 30· Ah, Yehowah, please, let your ear become attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who take delight in fearing your name, and, please, do grant success to your servant today, and make him an

object of pity before this man. Now I myself happened to be cupbearer to the king. (**Nehemiah 1:11**)

[Question] How did Nehemiah humbly and respectfully pray before his approach to the king?

- 31· And he was about to say to annihilate them, if it had not been for Moses his chosen one, who stood in the gap before him, to turn back his rage from bringing them to ruin. (**Psalms 106:23**)

[Question] Who stood in the gap in Israel's behalf, to keep Yehowah from destroying them completely?

- 32· The sacrifice of the wicked ones is something detestable to Yehowah, but the prayer of the upright ones is a pleasure to him. (**Proverbs 15:8**)

[Question] What is the sacrifice of the wicked ones like before Yehowah God?

[Question] How though, does he view the prayers of the righteous ones?

- 33· And said to Jeremiah the prophet; May our request for favor, please, fall before you, and do you **pray** in our behalf to Yehowah your God, in behalf of all this remnant, for we have been left remaining, a few out of many, just as your eyes are seeing us. (**Jeremiah 42:2**)

[Question] How did the remaining ones of the people after the destruction of Jerusalem ask for Jeremiah to approach God for them?

- 34· That is also why we, from the day we heard of it, have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the accurate knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual comprehension. (**Colossians 1:9**)

[Question] How did Paul pray in behalf of those to whom he ministered?

- 35· In answer Simon said; You men, make **supplication** for me to Yehowah that none of the things you have said may come upon me. (**Acts of Apostles 8:24**)

[Question] How did Simon ask that prayers be made in his behalf when he sinned greatly before Yehowah God?

- 36· **Consequently Peter was being kept in the prison, but prayer to God for him was being carried on intensely by the congregation. (Acts of Apostles 12:5)**

[Question] What was the congregation of anointed Christians in Jerusalem doing all the while that Peter was in prison, until he was released by an angel of Yehowah God?

- 37· **And many of those who had become believers would come and confess and report their practices openly. (Acts of Apostles 19:18)**

[Question] What did many do to openly confess their own sins and get God's forgiveness?